

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject application is respectfully solicited.

Claims 61 through 78, 117 through 119, 122, and 125 through 131 are pending, with Claims 61, 117 through 119, 122, and 131 being independent. Claims 61 through 78, 117, 118, 119, 122, and 125 through 131 were allowed. Claims 120, 121, 123, 124, and 132 through 144, all of which were withdrawn from consideration, have been cancelled without prejudice as required in the Official Action. Claim 117 has been amended. Claims 125, 126, 128, and 130 have been amended so as not to depend upon cancelled claims. The specification has been amended to update the continuing information, as required in the Official Action.

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Applicant gratefully wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended in granting on January 31, 2012, a telephonic interview with Applicant's representative. During the interview, the Examiner kindly advised that Claim 117, whose status was not indicated in the Official Action, is also allowed. The Examiner also asked that Claim 117 be amended to insert the term "the" at line 7, which Applicant has done.

FURTHER REMARKS

Applicant yet again wishes to advise that all of the subject application's claims have been copied in modified form from Claims 1 through 4 and 6 through 13 of U.S. Patent No. 5,883,732 (Takada, et al.) as shown by the following Table:

Table

<u>Takada, et al.</u> claims	subject application claims
1	61, 117, 118, 122, 125/117, 125/118, 125/122, 130/117, 130/118, 130/122, 131
2	62, 116, 119, 128/119, 129/128/119, 130/119
3/1	63, 126/117, 126/118, 126/122
3/2	73, 126/119
4/3/1	64, 127/126/117, 127/126/118, 127/126/122
4/3/2	74, 127/126/119
5/4/3/1	
5/4/3/2	
6/5/4/3/1	65
6/5/4/3/2	75

<u>Takada, et al.</u> claims	subject application claims
7/6/5/4/3/1	66
7/6/5/4/3/2	76
8/6/5/4/3/1	67
8/6/5/4/3/2	77
9/8/6/5/4/3/1	68
9/8/6/5/4/3/2	78
10	69, 128/117, 128/118, 128/122
11	70, 129/128/117, 129/128/118, 129/128/122
12	71
13	72

Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The Official Action states at p. 4 that the claims are patentably distinct from the patent claims so no interfering subject matter exists. Applicant respectfully traverses the foregoing, and submits that declaration of an interference is appropriate, as discussed in the September 2, 2008 Preliminary Amendment. If the Office agrees, then Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned representative at (202) 530-1010 before acting upon the application so that any additional papers desired by the Examiner may be timely prepared and filed. Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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